

### **Remarks**

Claims 1, 4-44, 46-54, and 67-72 are allowed in this application. By this amendment, claim 1 is amended to correct a grammatical error introduced by the Examiner's Amendment which accompanied the Notice of Allowance dated November 17, 2006. As stated in the Examiner's Amendment, amendments to the claims may be filed under 37 CFR 1.312 after the mailing of the Notice of Allowance if the changes introduced by Examiner's Amendment are "unacceptable to applicant" and if they are submitted "no later than the payment of the issue fee." As this amendment corrects a grammatical error introduced by the Examiner's Amendment and is accompanied by the issue fee payment, Applicants submit that the amendment of claim 1 is in accordance with 37 CFR 1.312. Applicants respectfully request that the Examiner consider and enter this amendment, and that the Director approve this amendment, without withdrawing the application from issue.

In addition, Applicants wish to comment, for the record, on the language of allowed claims 1 and 46. Specifically, Applicants note that the phrase "a pattern on each of the different layers" in claims 1 and 46 does not mean that the claimed methods necessarily produce the *same pattern* on each of the different layers. As "a pattern on each of the different layers" is determined by the interaction of the components from the biological specimen with the identification molecules (capture molecules) on each layer, the resulting pattern on each of the layers can be the same, overlapping, or different.

### **Conclusions**

It is respectfully submitted that the present claims are in a condition for issuance. If it may further issuance of these claims, the Examiner is invited to call the undersigned at the telephone number listed below.

Respectfully submitted,

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